

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 and 23-25 are pending in this application.

As a preliminary matter, claim 25, which was added by the May 26, 2009 Amendment, has not been examined in the Office Action. Applicant requests consideration of claim 25. Claim 25 is patentable over the applied references based on its dependency from independent claim 1 as well as for the additional features that claim 25 recites.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,999,187 to Tanaka, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,594,031 to Taima. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of Tanaka and Taima does not disclose and would not have rendered obvious, a communication system having a storing portion that stores in a communication-end storing unit communication data as a single data if the communication data satisfies a prescribed storage condition as the result of judgment by a judging portion, and a sequentially storing portion that sequentially stores in the communication-end storing unit the data segments segment by segment if the communication data does not satisfy the prescribed storage condition as the result of judgment by the judging portion, and the terminal device comprises a terminal-end storing unit that stores various data, and a terminal-end storage commanding unit that stores, when the communication data is stored as the single data in the communication-end storing unit by the storing portion, the communication data into the terminal-end storing unit and that stores, when data segments are stored in the communication-end storing unit by the sequentially storing portion, the data segments into the terminal-end storing unit, as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action acknowledges that Tanaka fails to disclose the above features, but cites Taima as allegedly overcoming the deficiencies. However, Taima merely discloses that image data is compressed at a higher compression ratio when a PC 6 outputs image data to a

printer 10, and at the same time, a PC 8 outputs another image data to a copier 12 via a printer control unit 2 (see col. 4, lines 1-13). Taima also discloses that the image data temporarily stored in a hard disk is compressed on a page-by-page basis (see col. 7, lines 64-67). That is, Taima deals with all the image data on a page-by-page basis. On the other hand, in the claimed communication system, if a judging portion judges that a communication data satisfies a prescribe storage condition, a storing portion stores the communication data as a single data, whereas if a judging portion judges that the communication data does not satisfy a prescribed storage condition, a sequentially storing portion sequentially stores data segments segment by segment. That is, communication data is handled as the single data if the prescribed storage condition is satisfied and is handled as a data segment if the prescribed storage condition is not satisfied. Taima does not disclose the claimed communication system.

Further, contrary to the assertion on page 3 of the Office Action, data stored in a RAM is not all stored in one spot. Generally, a RAM functions as a temporary storage area having a plurality of data. Asserting that the data stored in a RAM is in one spot denies the fact that a plurality of data is stored in the RAM. As such, storing data in a RAM does not mean that the data is stored as a single data.

Therefore, the combination of Tanaka and Taima fails to disclose or render obvious the combination of features recited in independent claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of independent claim 1, and its dependent claims 2-9 and 11, be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 10 and 12-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tanaka in view of Taima, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No.

2004/0075866 A1 to Thormodson et al. (Thormodson). The rejection is respectfully traversed.¹

The combination of Tanaka, Taima and Thormodson does not disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, a communication system having a terminal device that comprises a terminal-end storing unit that stores various types of data, a terminal-end determining unit that determines, by accessing to the communication-end storing unit via the second communicating unit, whether or not there exists any description data stored in the communication-end storing unit that is in the state that satisfies the prescribed storage condition, and a terminal-end storage commanding unit that, if the terminal-end determining unit determines that there exists description data stored in the communication-end storing unit that is in the state that satisfies the prescribed storage condition, stores in the terminal-end storing unit the description data stored in the communication-end storing unit, as recited in independent claims 12 and similarly recited in the method of independent claim 23.

Tanaka merely discloses that the service provider (see Fig. 2) sends to the user information concerning changes of set values by mailing, FAX, or electronic data transmission (see col. 7, lines 14-17). That is, the service provider (allegedly corresponding to the claimed terminal device) sends the user information to a user's image forming apparatus (allegedly corresponding to the claimed communication device) (see Fig. 1). Taima discloses that the PCs (allegedly corresponding to the claimed communication device) send the image data to the printer control unit 2 (allegedly corresponding to the claimed terminal device). Data communication between the PCs and the printer control unit 2 is a one-way communication from the PCs to the printer control unit 2. On the other hand, in the claimed communication system, a terminal device includes a terminal-end determining unit that

¹ Claim 22 was canceled in the May 26, 2009 Amendment.

determines whether or not there exists any description data stored in the communication-end storing unit via a second communication unit. Neither Tanaka nor Taima discloses a configuration having a second communication unit as claimed in independent claims 12 and 23. Thormodson fails to overcome the deficiencies of Tanaka and Taima.

With the configuration claimed in claims 12 and 23, the communication data stored in the communication-end storing unit can be recorded automatically in the terminal-end storing unit. This configuration prevents the description data that does not satisfy the prescribed condition from mistakenly being read by the user and stored in the terminal-end storing unit (see page 44, line 7 to page 45 line 4 of Applicant's specification). None of the applied references discloses the combination of features recited in the claims or the resulting benefits.

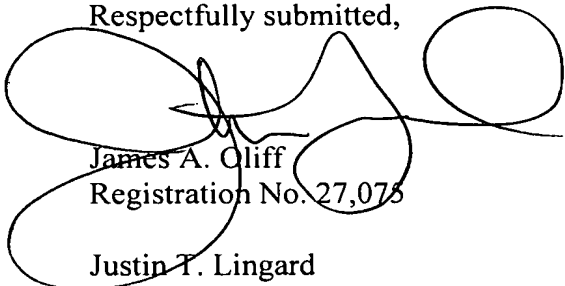
With respect to independent claim 19, the combination of Tanaka, Taima and Thormodson does not disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, a storage medium having a program of sequentially storing in a communication end storing unit data segments segment by segment if communication data does not satisfy a prescribed storage condition as the result of a judgment, for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to independent claim 1. Thormodson also fails to overcome the deficiencies of Tanaka and Taima with respect to the features of independent claim 19.

Therefore, the combination of Tanaka, Taima and Thormodson does not disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, the combination of features recited in independent claims 12, 19 and 23 and their respective dependent claims. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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